

Lady Bishops win invitation to NCAA soccer tournament

The North Carolina Wesleyan women's soccer team has been selected to the 1991 NCAA Division III tournament, the school announced Monday.

The Lady Bishops will travel to Fredericksburg, Va., today to participate in the South Regional for round one on Saturday and round two on Sunday of the tournament.

The South Regional will consist of Wesleyan, ranked tenth nationally, host and eighth-ranked

Mary Washington, defending national champion and fifth-ranked Ithaca College, and ninth-ranked Trenton State.

The single-elimination tournament will begin on Saturday at 11 a.m. with the Lady Bishops facing Ithaca and then Mary Washington will play Trenton State at 1:30 p.m. The winners of those two games will play at 1 p.m. on Sunday with the winner there advancing to the national semi-finals.

The Lady Bishops, behind third year head coach Patrick Baker, finished second in the Dixie Conference with a 12-5-0 season record. The team had a tough week last week, losing at Division I UNC-Greensboro, 1-0, and then losing to arch-rival Methodist College in the Dixie Conference Championship game, 1-0.

"We played two of the toughest games on our schedule last week and unfortunately came up

short in each match," Baker said. "We played inspired soccer and tough defense against UNC-Greensboro before giving up the only goal of the game after 70 minutes of play. Against Methodist, the experience of their eight seniors paid off in the second half."

The Wesleyan program made its first post-season appearance back in 1988 when it lost in the first round to Methodist College, 3-0. The team suffered a 4-12-1

record in 1989 and a 6-12-1 mark last year.

"We have come a long way from my first year here," said Baker. "This year we have started seven freshmen each game, three sophomores, and a junior — so the bulk of our success has been directly related to our talented young players. The season has been great so far, and with not having one senior on the squad, the future looks very bright for us."

The Decree Sports



Men's team ends season with win against VMI, 3-2

The Battling Bishops men's soccer team finished the 1991 season on a winning note by defeating Virginia Military Institute 3-2 last week.

Freshman forward Chad Garbrandt scored all three of the Bishops goals to bring his season total up to 11. Garbrandt's first goal came unassisted at the 5:30 mark to put Wesleyan up 1-0.

Sophomore midfielder Sean Driscoll then sent a cross in front of the VMI goal at the 29:45 mark and Garbrandt recorded his second goal. VMI knocked home a goal 13 minutes later to make the half-time score 2-1 in favor of Wesleyan.

Ten minutes into the second half, Garbrandt recorded his hat-trick on a penalty kick to push the lead to 3-1. VMI would score another goal later on, but the Bishops held on to win, 3-2.

"It was great to finish the season with a win over a fine VMI club," said head coach Spencer Smith. "I believe this will give us some great momentum going into the off season."

The Bishops played earlier in the week at Christopher Newport College and came away with a 2-2 tie in overtime. Garbrandt got the Bishops on the board in the first half with an assist from Driscoll to go up 1-0. CNC scored two unanswered goals to go up 2-1, before freshman forward Cory Osterbind headed home the equalizer just prior to half-time.

"Defensively we were very strong in our 2-2 draw with CNC and offensively we scored some very nice goals," Smith said.

North Carolina Wesleyan finishes the season at 6-12-1 overall and 1-3-1 in the Dixie Conference.

Volleyball team drops two as Bishops face tournament

The North Carolina Wesleyan volleyball team suffered two losses last week at the hands of conference foe Averett College and Meredith College.

The Lady Bishops traveled to Averett College on Monday and lost in three straight games, 2-15, 5-15, and 0-15.

"The ladies put forth a lot of

effort, but Averett is such a powerful team that we have too much trouble with them at this time," said head coach Charlie Long.

Meredith College came to Everett Gymnasium on Tuesday evening and left with a hard fought win, 6-15, 8-15, 15-11, 5-15.

"We played well against

Meredith," Long said. "The depth on their bench proved to be too much as they just wore us down."

The Lady Bishops traveled to Greensboro this past Monday to take on Guilford College and then had the rest of the week off in preparation for the Dixie Conference Tournament to be held tonight and Saturday at Methodist College in Fayetteville.

Good luck, Lady Bishops!